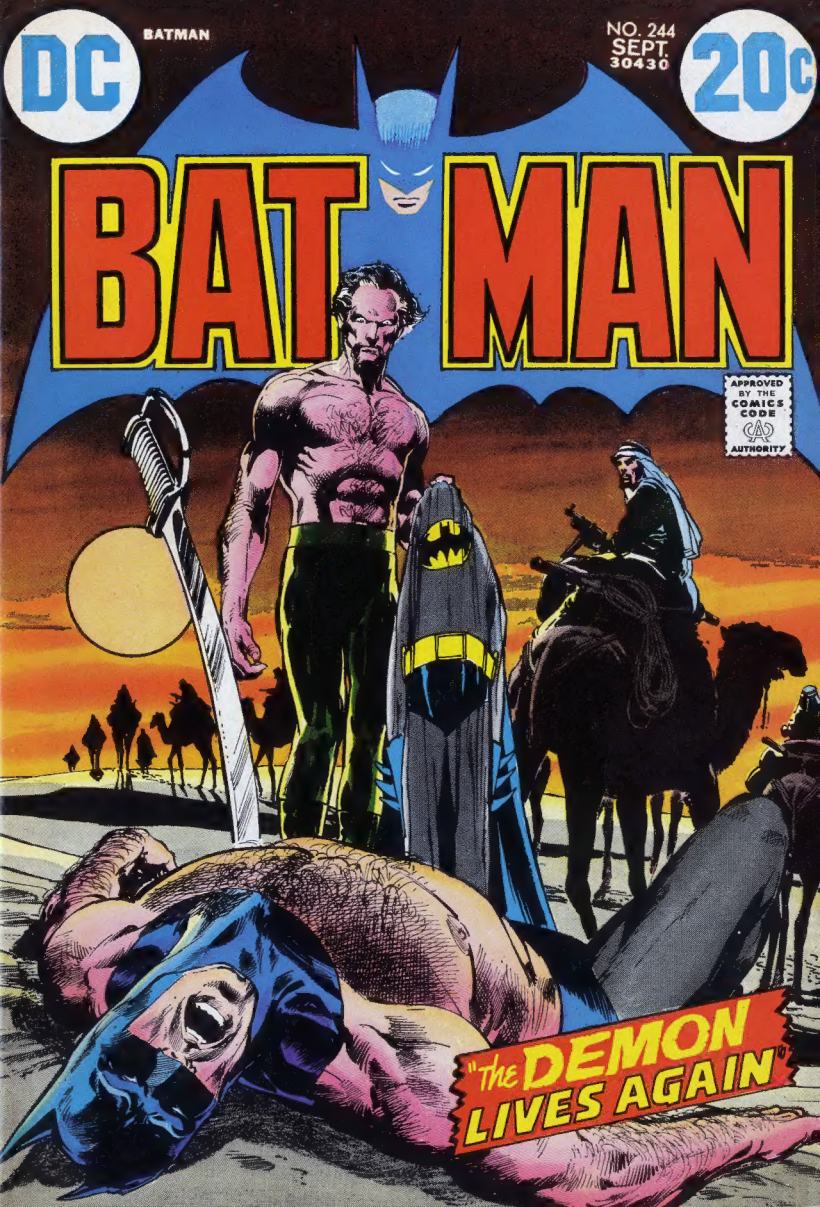
DC
BATMAN
NO. 244
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BAT MAN
APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY
"The DEMON LIVES AGAIN"

Winners Everywhere!

Sales Leadership "Everything You Want Club"

Everyone

Can Win Big Prizes or Lots of Cash Selling Personalized Christmas Cards from Free Album

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Enroll me as a member. Rush FREE Membership Card, Christmas Card Album, Prize Catalog and full details on how to earn prizes or cash.

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Everyone Who Tries Can Win!

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HEREWITH... ANOTHER INCREDIBLE CHAPTER IN THE LIFE OF THE WORLD'S GREATEST CRIME-FIGHTER...
BATMAN
THE DEMON LIVES AGAIN!
COME TO A CHALET NESTLED HIGH IN THE SWISS ALPS... FEEL THE CLEAN BITE OF WINTER AND LISTEN TO A DISTANT SCREAM OF WIND IN ENDLESS CREVICES...
HERE THE BATMAN AND HIS COMPANIONS HAVE CAPTURED TALIA, DAUGHTER OF ARCH-CRIMINAL RÄS AL GHÜL...
HERE, ALSO, THEY WATCHED RÄS HIMSELF DIE... THEY THOUGHT!
BUT NOW, A POWERFUL FIGURE LEAPS TOWARD THEM, A SNARL IN HIS THROAT AND BLOOD-LUST GLITTERING IN HIS EYES--
STORY BY: DENNY O' NEIL
ART BY: NEAL ADAMS & DICK GIORDANO

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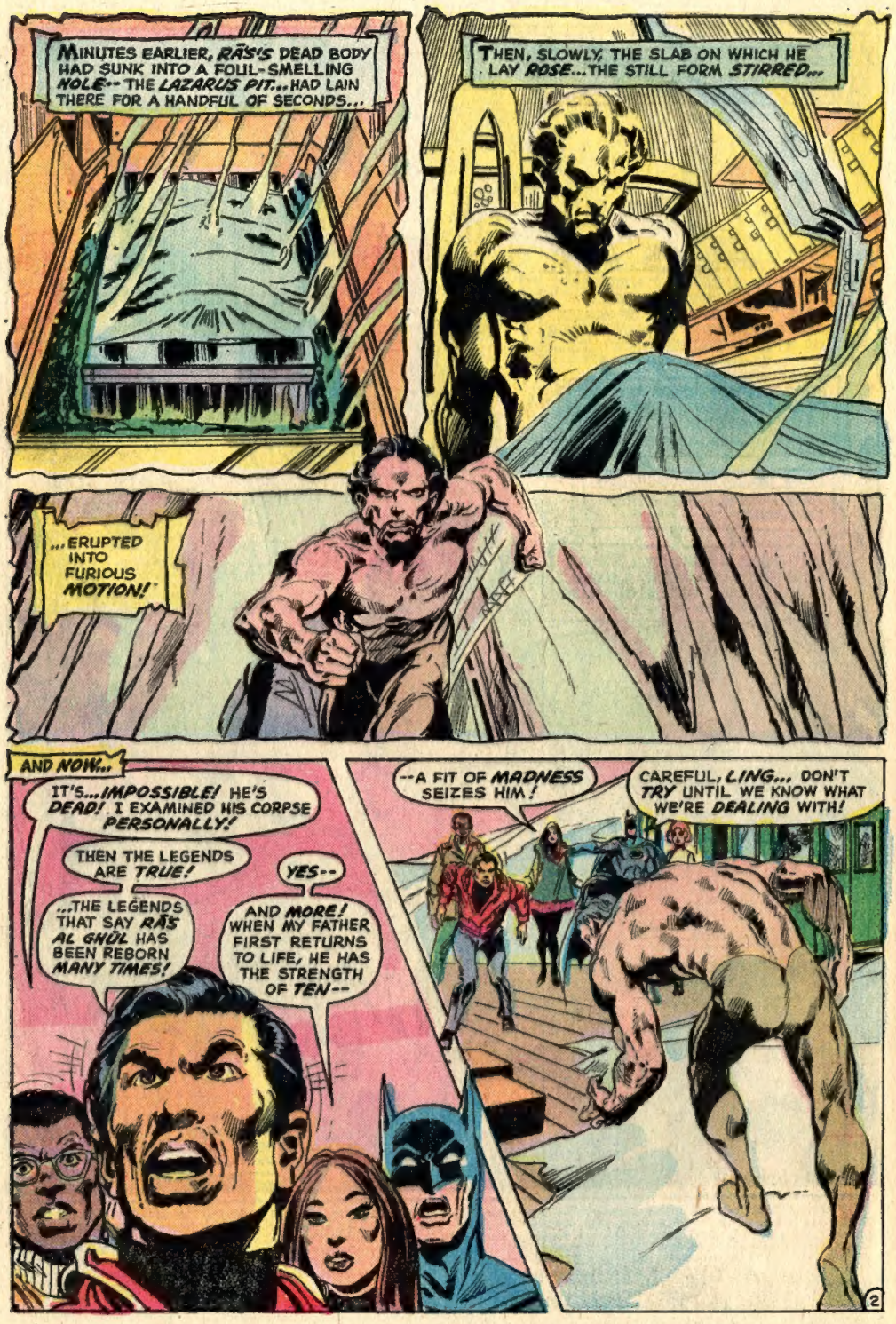
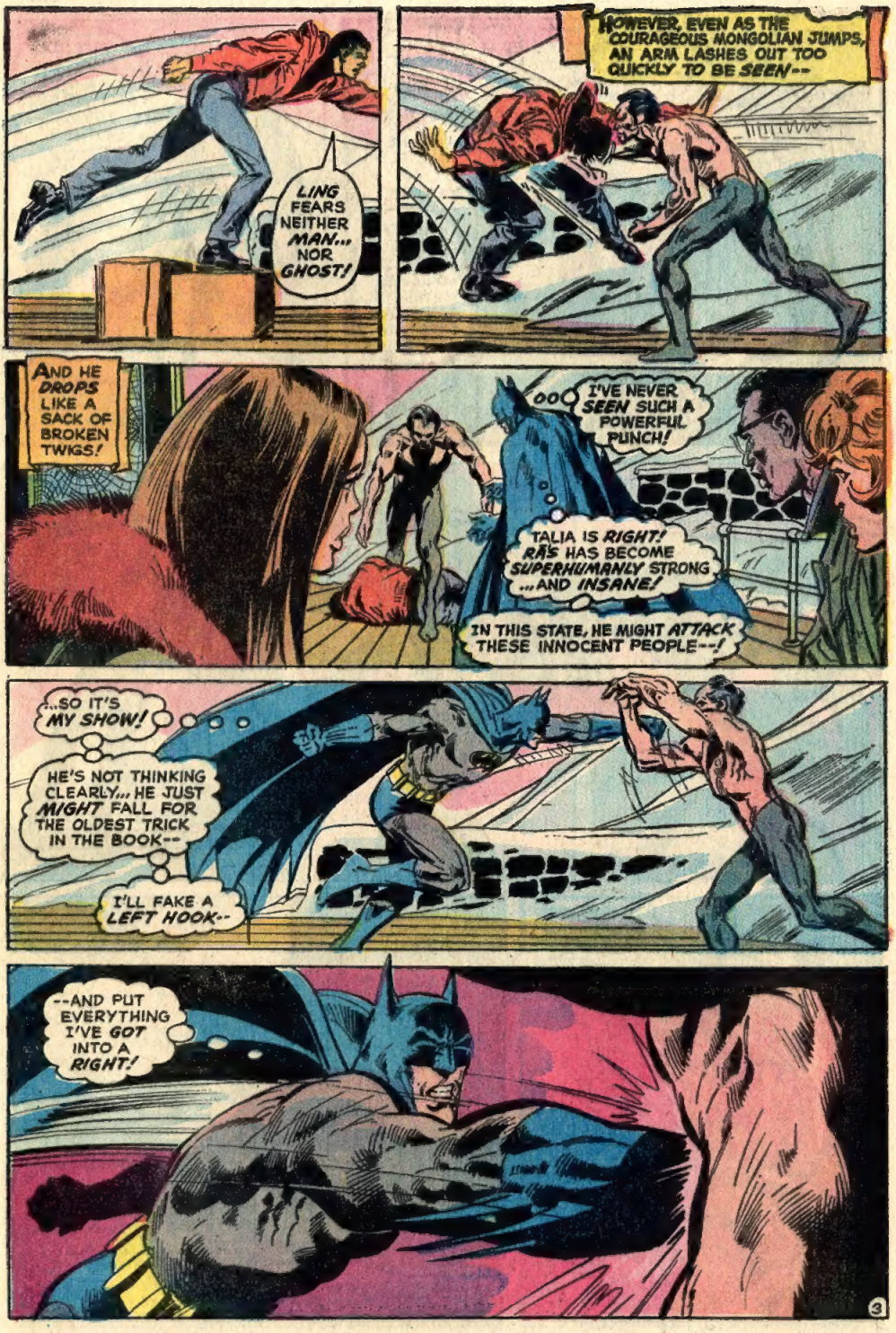
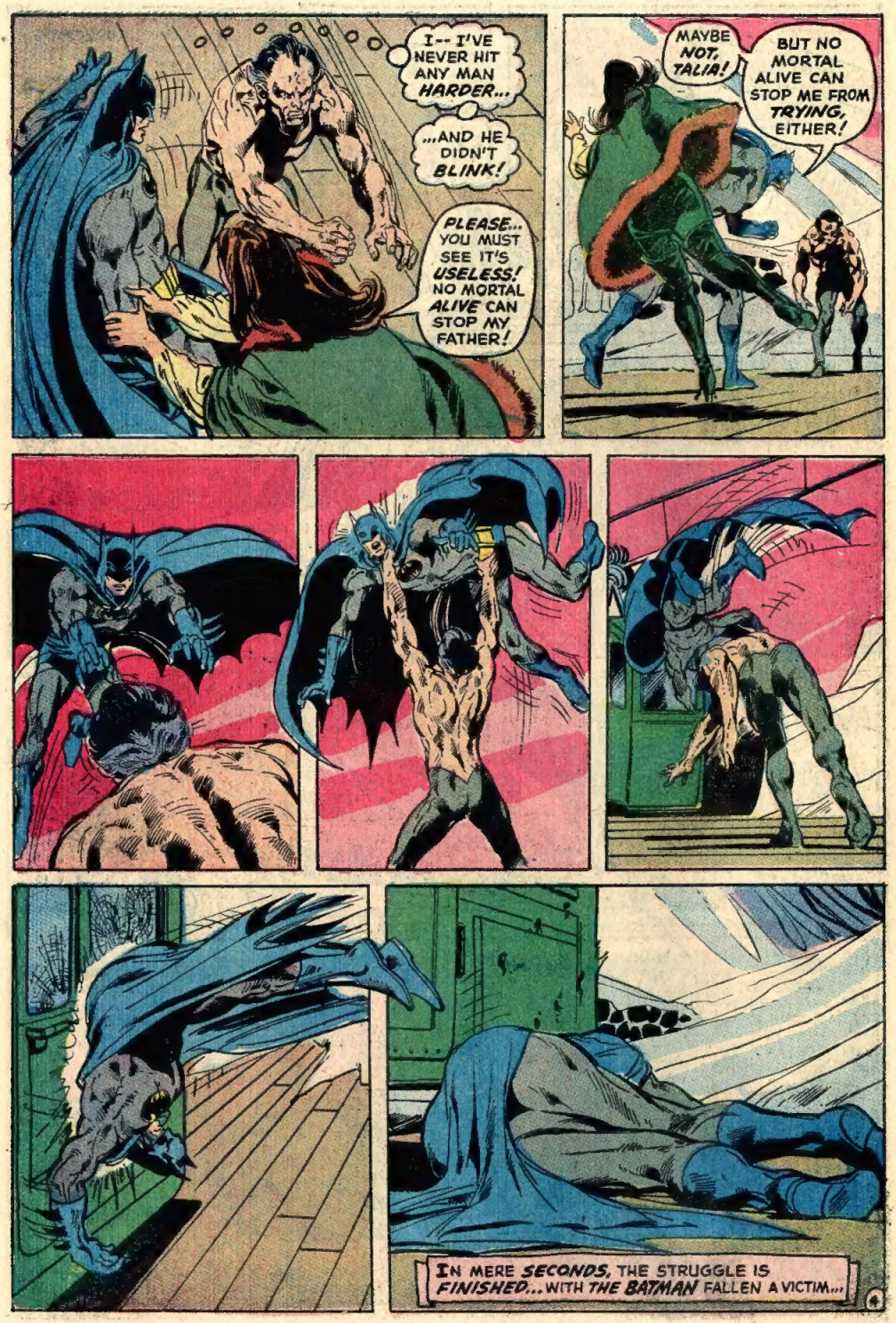

MINUTES EARLIER, RA'S'S DEAD BODY HAD SUNK INTO A FOUL-SMELLING HOLE-- THE LAZARUS PIT... HAD LAIN THERE FOR A HANDFUL OF SECONDS...
THEN, SLOWLY, THE SLAB ON WHICH HE LAY ROSE... THE STILL FORM STIRRED...
...ERUPTED INTO FURIOUS MOTION!
AND NOW...
IT'S...IMPOSSIBLE! HE'S DEAD! I EXAMINED HIS CORPSE PERSONALLY!
THEN THE LEGENDS ARE TRUE!
YES--
...THE LEGENDS THAT SAY RA'S AL GHUL HAS BEEN REBORN MANY TIMES!
AND MORE! WHEN MY FATHER FIRST RETURNS TO LIFE, HE HAS THE STRENGTH OF TEN--
--A FIT OF MADNESS SEIZES HIM!
CAREFUL, LING... DON'T TRY UNTIL WE KNOW WHAT WE'RE DEALING WITH!
2

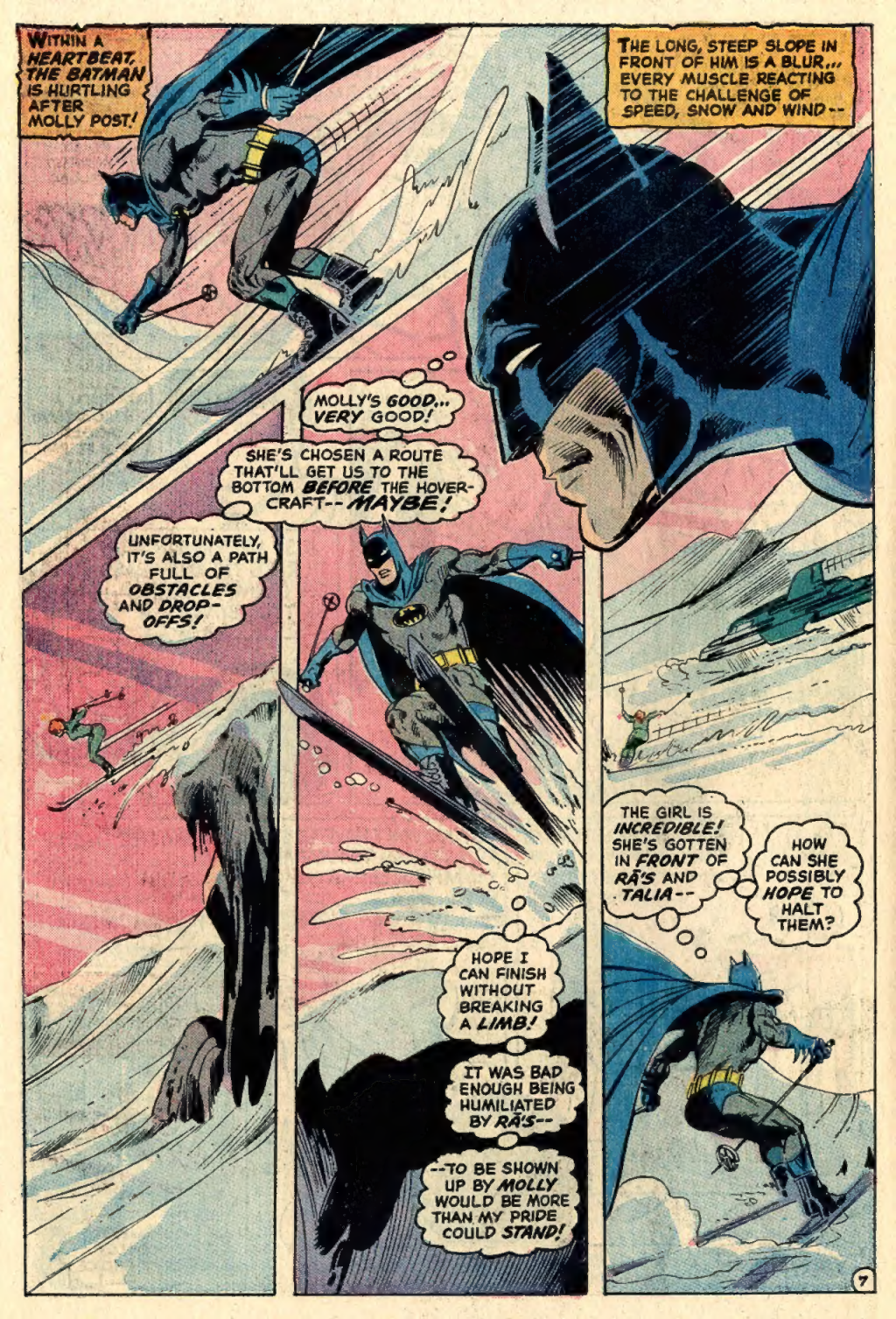

LING FEARS NEITHER MAN... NOR GHOST!
HOWEVER, EVEN AS THE COURAGEOUS MONGOLIAN JUMPS, AN ARM LASHES OUT TOO QUICKLY TO BE SEEN--
AND HE DROPS LIKE A SACK OF BROKEN TWIGS!
OO I'VE NEVER SEEN SUCH A POWERFUL PUNCH!
TALIA IS RIGHT! RA'S HAS BECOME SUPERHUMANLY STRONG ...AND INSANE!
IN THIS STATE, HE MIGHT ATTACK THESE INNOCENT PEOPLE--!
...SO IT'S MY SHOW!
HE'S NOT THINKING CLEARLY... HE JUST MIGHT FALL FOR THE OLDEST TRICK IN THE BOOK--
I'LL FAKE A LEFT HOOK--
--AND PUT EVERYTHING I'VE GOT INTO A RIGHT!
3

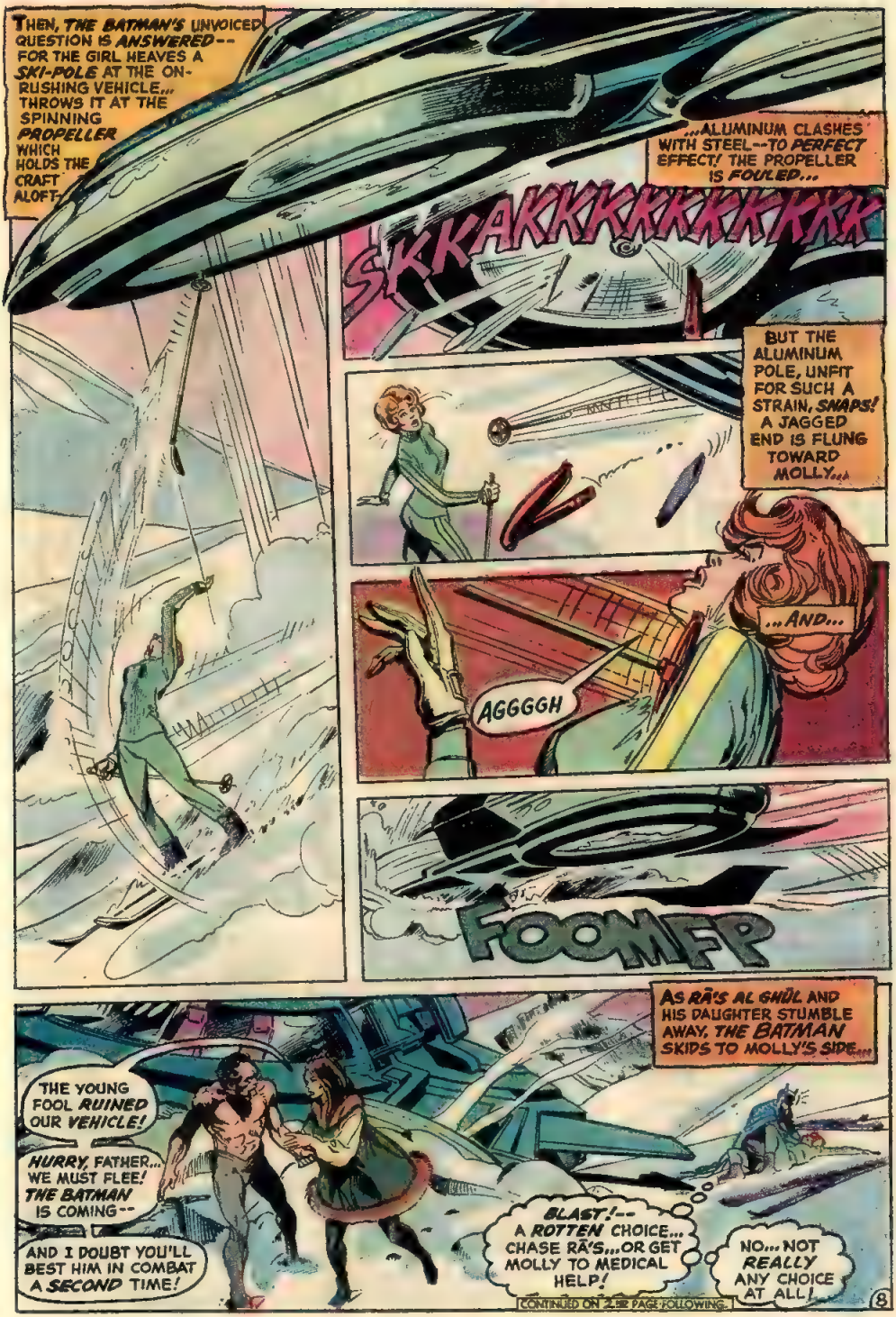

I-- I'VE NEVER HIT ANY MAN HARDER...
...AND HE DIDN'T BLINK!
PLEASE... YOU MUST SEE IT'S USELESS! NO MORTAL ALIVE CAN STOP MY FATHER!
MAYBE NOT, TALIA!
BUT NO MORTAL ALIVE CAN STOP ME FROM TRYING, EITHER!
IN MERE SECONDS, THE STRUGGLE IS FINISHED... WITH THE BATMAN FALLEN A VICTIM...

DON'T EXPECT TO ESCAPE IN THE CAR! I'M NOT GOOD AT FIGHTING... BUT I KNOW MACHINES--
AND I'VE WRECKED THIS ONE!
NO MATTER! WE HAVE BETTER TRANSPORTATION!
FATHER... CAN YOU UNDERSTAND ME--?
Y-YES...
YOU REMEMBER--? THE HOVERCRAFT!
THANK THE GODS... BATMAN LIVES!
GOOD-BYE... BELOVED!
MOMENTS LATER...
YOU OKAY, BATMAN?
YES... HUMILIATED-- BUT PHYSICALLY ALL RIGHT!
HOW'S LING?
NOT GOOD!
HE HAS A LOT OF BROKEN BONES AND SOME INTERNAL BLEEDING!
HE NEEDS A HOSPITAL! I CAN REPAIR THE DAMAGE I DID TO THE CABLE CAR AND TAKE HIM DOWN THE MOUNTAIN!
WHICH LEAVES ME WITH ONE LAST QUESTION...
...WHERE DID RA'S AND TALIA GO?
THEY RAN IN THAT DIRECTION!
5

THE BATMAN LOOKS IN THE DIRECTION MOLLY IS POINTING... AND, SUDDENLY, THERE IS THE SOUND OF A POWERFUL ENGINE! SNOW SHIFTS...
...THE WHITENESS DROPS AWAY TO REVEAL SLEEK, SHINY STEEL --
--AND A STRANGELY SHAPED CRAFT LIFTS INTO THE AIR!...
...SOME SORT OF HOVERCRAFT, MODIFIED FOR TRAVEL ON THIS TERRAIN!
RĀ'S AND TALIA ARE GETTING AWAY CLEAN--
--AND THERE'S NO WAY WE CAN NAIL THEM!
MAYBE THERE IS! I'VE WON A FEW OLYMPIC MEDALS ON SKIS--
--AND GUESS WHAT I'VE JUST FOUND?
MISS POST... YOU'RE A TREASURE!
WITH THESE, I HAVE AT LEAST A CHANCE--
CORRECTION... WE HAVE A CHANCE!
I'M TIRED OF YOU DOING ALL THE WORK!
I CAN'T PERMIT YOU TO ENDANGER...
TO STOP ME, YOU'LL HAVE TO CATCH ME!
--BYE-BYE!
CONTINUED ON 2ND PAGE FOLLOWING!
6

ROGER'S SUPER SKITTLE BOWL
LOOK THAT'S ROGER STAUBACH, THE FAMOUS FOOTBALL STAR
YEAH, AND HE'S PLAYING WITH THE BIGGEST SKITTLE BOWL I'VE EVER SEEN.
WHAT ARE YOU DOING, ROGER?
JUST KEEPING IN SHAPE DURING THE OFF-SEASON WITH MY OLYMPIC SIZE SKITTLE BOWL™.
GEE, IT'S GIGANTIC
IT'S TALLER THAN ME
NATURALLY EVERYTHING'S BIG IN TEXAS.
BUT YOU DON'T HAVE TO BE FROM TEXAS TO HAVE AN OLYMPIC SIZE SKITTLE BOWL.
OLYMPIC SIZE SKITTLE BOWL. IT'S LIKE HAVING A BOWLING ALLEY IN YOUR BACKYARD... OR PLAYROOM.
WHEN IT COMES TO BOWL GAMES, ROGER STAUBACH IS AN EXPERT! HE'S SPORTS ADVISOR TO AURORA.
AURORA®


WITHIN A HEARTBEAT, THE BATMAN IS HURTLING AFTER MOLLY POST!
THE LONG, STEEP SLOPE IN FRONT OF HIM IS A BLUR... EVERY MUSCLE REACTING TO THE CHALLENGE OF SPEED, SNOW AND WIND--
MOLLY'S GOOD... VERY GOOD!
SHE'S CHOSEN A ROUTE THAT'LL GET US TO THE BOTTOM BEFORE THE HOVER-CRAFT--MAYBE!
UNFORTUNATELY, IT'S ALSO A PATH FULL OF OBSTACLES AND DROP-OFFS!
THE GIRL IS INCREDIBLE! SHE'S GOTTEN IN FRONT OF RA'S AND TALIA--
HOW CAN SHE POSSIBLY HOPE TO HALT THEM?
HOPE I CAN FINISH WITHOUT BREAKING A LIMB!
IT WAS BAD ENOUGH BEING HUMILIATED BY RA'S--
--TO BE SHOWN UP BY MOLLY WOULD BE MORE THAN MY PRIDE COULD STAND!
7


THEN, THE BATMAN'S UNVOICED QUESTION IS ANSWERED--FOR THE GIRL HEAVES A SKI-POLE AT THE ON-RUSHING VEHICLE... THROWS IT AT THE SPINNING PROPELLER WHICH HOLDS THE CRAFT ALOFT--
...ALUMINUM CLASHES WITH STEEL--TO PERFECT EFFECT! THE PROPELLER IS FOULED...
SKKAKKKKKKKKKK
BUT THE ALUMINUM POLE, UNFIT FOR SUCH A STRAIN, SNAPS! A JAGGED END IS FLUNG TOWARD MOLLY...
...AND...
AGGGGH
FOOMFP
AS RĀ'S AL GHŪL AND HIS DAUGHTER STUMBLE AWAY, THE BATMAN SKIDS TO MOLLY'S SIDE...
THE YOUNG FOOL RUINED OUR VEHICLE!
HURRY, FATHER... WE MUST FLEE! THE BATMAN IS COMING--
AND I DOUBT YOU'LL BEST HIM IN COMBAT A SECOND TIME!
BLAST!--A ROTTEN CHOICE... CHASE RĀ'S...OR GET MOLLY TO MEDICAL HELP!
NO... NOT REALLY ANY CHOICE AT ALL!
CONTINUED ON 2ND PAGE FOLLOWING
8

GET THESE DYNAMITE EMBROIDERED CLOTH PATCHES THAT TELL IT LIKE IT IS!

EACH GROOVY PATCH MEASURES 3". MADE TO SELL FOR MUCH, MUCH MORE. YOUR SATISFACTION IS GUARANTEED OR YOUR MONEY CHEERFULLY REFUNDED. ORDER NOW!

NOW ONLY 69c EACH FOR 3 OR MORE

75c EACH WHEN ORDERED SEPARATELY. PAY ONLY 69c EACH FOR 3 OR MORE.

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Mail Orders to
GANDALF PRODUCTS CO., P.O. Box 38. Dept. NC-7, New York, N. Y. 10022

SPEEDY ORDER FORM
RUSH FOLLOWING EMBLEMS TO ME:
(Order by number only)

75¢ EACH
3 or more, each 69¢

HANDLING .35

Add 4% IN NEW YORK
TOTAL $

PRINT NAME

ADDRESS APT. NO.

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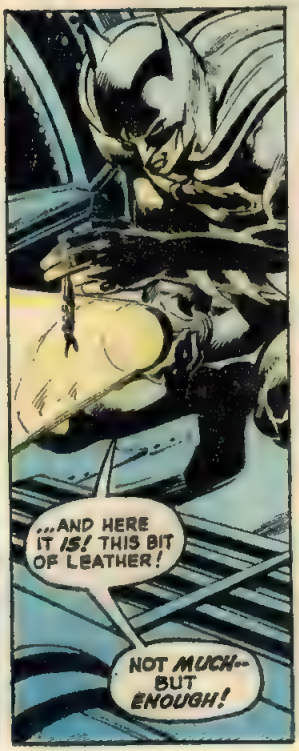
P.O. Box 38, New York, N.Y. 10022

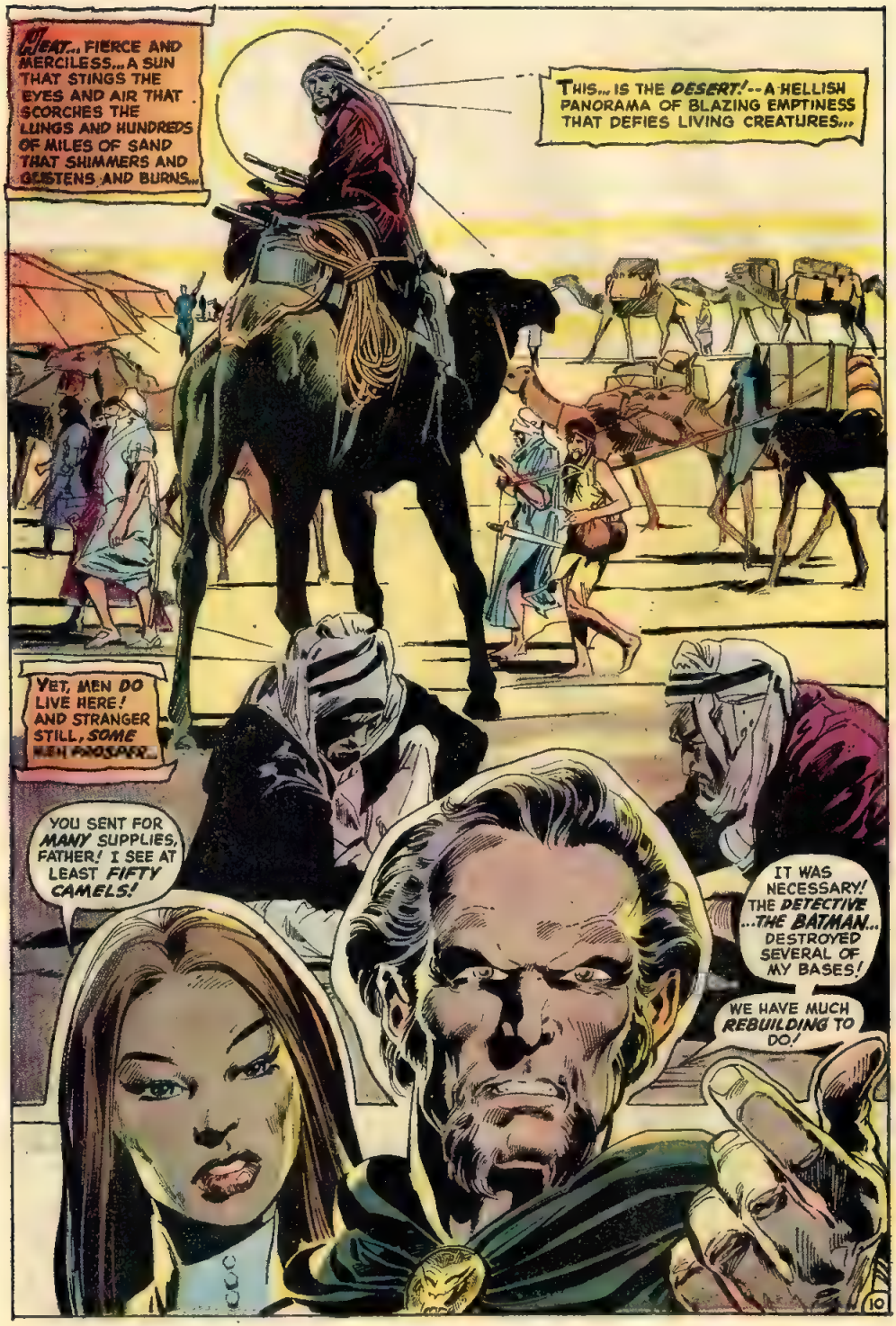
GUESS I MESSED YOU OVER, HUH, BIG FELLA? GETTING MYSELF STUCK IN THE CRUNCH!
I'M SORRY...

DON'T BE, KID! YOU'RE A GOOD GIRL... ONE OF THE BEST!

AND, AS MIDNIGHT WRAPS THE MOUNTAINSIDE IN CHILL DARKNESS, THE BATMAN RETURNS!...
LUCK HAS TO GO MY WAY SOONER OR LATER!
MAYBE RA'S LEFT A TRACE ...A CLUE!
IF I FIND SOMETHING--ANYTHING--TO GIVE ME A START...


...AND HERE IT IS! THIS BIT OF LEATHER!
NOT MUCH--BUT ENOUGH!

MOLLY AND LING ARE BADLY INJURED... MATCHES MALONE IS DEAD... SO I'M LEFT TO FACE RA'S AL GHUL ALONE!
...GUESS I ALWAYS KNEW IT WOULD BE JUST RA'S AND BATMAN AT THE... END!


HEAT... FIERCE AND MERCILESS... A SUN THAT STINGS THE EYES AND AIR THAT SCORCHES THE LUNGS AND HUNDREDS OF MILES OF SAND THAT SHIMMERS AND GLISTENS AND BURNS...
THIS... IS THE DESERT!--A HELLISH PANORAMA OF BLAZING EMPTINESS THAT DEFIES LIVING CREATURES...
YET, MEN DO LIVE HERE! AND STRANGER STILL, SOME MEN PROSPER...
YOU SENT FOR MANY SUPPLIES, FATHER! I SEE AT LEAST FIFTY CAMELS!
IT WAS NECESSARY! THE DETECTIVE ...THE BATMAN... DESTROYED SEVERAL OF MY BASES!
WE HAVE MUCH REBUILDING TO DO!

I HAVE TOO FEW YEARS LEFT, DAUGHTER!
I HAVE GONE TO THE LAZARUS PIT OFTEN...TOO OFTEN!
SOON IT WILL NO LONGER RESTORE LIFE TO MY BODY! I MUST BEGIN PUTTING INTO EFFECT MY PLAN...
...MY PLANS TO RESTORE HARMONY TO OUR SAD PLANET!
I HAVE BEEN CALLED CRIMINAL AND GENIUS... AND I AM NEITHER! I AM AN ARTIST!
I HAVE A VISION... OF AN EARTH AS CLEAN AND PURE AS A SNOW-SWEPT MOUNTAIN...
...OR THE DESERT OUTSIDE!
IT IS THE VISION OF A MADMAN!
HOW DARE YOU ENTER MY TENT UNASKED?!
I'M NOT ABOUT TO STAND ON CEREMONY, RA'S!
THE DETECTIVE! I WOULD SAY YOUR PRESENCE IS IMPOSSIBLE-- IF I DID NOT KNOW YOUR ABILITIES!
MAY I ASK HOW YOU FOUND ME?
YOU DROPPED THIS... A CAMEL'S BRIDLE!
AND I RECALLED THAT ONLY TRIBESMEN FROM THIS AREA DECORATE THEIR ANIMALS' GEAR WITH BEADWORK!
THEN I SIMPLY OBSERVED UNTIL I SAW A SUPPLY-CARAVAN GOING WHERE NOBODY IS SUPPOSED TO BE!
THOUGH I'VE NEVER INTENTIONALLY KILLED... I SWEAR YOU WILL NOT LEAVE HERE ALIVE UNLESS YOU SURRENDER!

THEREFORE, I OFFER YOU A BARGAIN!--A CHANCE TO EARN YOUR LIFE! I CHALLENGE YOU TO A DUEL... TO THE DEATH! DO YOU ACCEPT?
WHEN DO WE BEGIN?
DETECTIVE ...I RESPECT YOU AS I RESPECT NO OTHER!
YOU ARE TRULY A MAGNIFICENT FOE!
IT WOULD GRIEVE ME TO CALL FOR HELP... TO ORDER YOU SHOT!
IMMEDIATELY!
TALIA, BRING MY FINEST WEAPONS!
HEAT... A VISCIOUS, INTANGIBLE BEAST HUNGRY FOR MORTAL FLESH...
...THERE IS THE HEAT... AND TWO STRONG MEN, EACH DETERMINED AND EACH, IN HIS OWN WAY, SPLENDID...
...TWO MEN LOCKED IN THE MOST TERRIBLE OF ENCOUNTERS...
ANG
...AND A LOVELY WOMAN WHOSE TEARS GO UNSEEN...
12

THIS LONG AFTERNOON IS FILLED WITH THE CLANGOR OF CLASHING BLADES...
...AND THE STENCH OF BODIES STRAINED TO THE LIMIT OF HUMAN ENDURANCE...
THE SUN REDDENS, DIMS, SLIPS BEHIND THE DISTANT DUNES... SHADOWS SOFTEN THE HARSHNESS AND CREEP ACROSS THE WASTES...
...AND IT HAS DECREED ME VICTOR! FAREWELL, GREATEST OF ENIMIES!
COME, DAUGHTER!
A MOMENT, FATHER...
SUDDENLY, THE UNEXPECTED ...THE TRAGIC! A SCORPION RISES INTO THE COOLNESS, SEEKING PREY, AND FINDS... THE BATMAN!
YOU ARE PROUD, DETECTIVE! YOU DO NOT PLEAD FOR AID...
...FOR THE ANTIDOTE TO THE POISON IN YOUR BLOOD!
NOR WOULD I GIVE IT! THE DESERT IS THE SHAPER OF MY DESTINY...
CONTINUED ON 3RD PAGE FOLLOWING...
13

Any 14 of these

If you join now and agree to buy ten more records (at regular Club prices)

213678

214940

210179

213538

215392

214064

211706

213629

212845

210781

210369

209239

207084

214387

214973

210237

206573

212753

212621

211482

207977

211714

210229

203372

211227

212480

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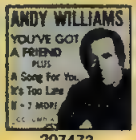
203919

196709

211565

211805



207472

211672

209544

206409

210146

202713

210195

210260

210153

196444

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hit records FOR ONLY $2.86

during the coming two years (you will have up to 300 records a month to choose from)

214403

214650

214981

209981

212852

211540

209973

213728

198986

207993

196246

203539

195727

213926

202523

214353

210138

212654

211755

209726

213660

Yes, it's true! — if you join now, you may have ANY 14 of these records for only $2.86. Just mail the application at the right, together with your check or money order for $2.86. In exchange . . .

You agree to buy just ten records (at regular Club prices) in the coming two years — and you may cancel membership at any time after doing so.

Your own charge account will be opened upon enrollment . . . and the records you order as a member will be mailed and billed at the regular Club price of $4.98 or $5.98 each, plus processing and postage. (Multi-record sets are somewhat higher.)

You may accept or reject records as follows: every four weeks you will receive a new copy of the Club's music magazine, which describes the regular selection for each musical interest . . . plus hundreds of alternate selections.

. . . if you do not want any record in any month, just return the selection card provided by the date specified

. . . if you want only the regular selection for your musical interest, you need do nothing — it will be shipped to you automatically

. . . if you want any of the other records offered, just order them on the selection card and return it by the date specified

. . . and from time to time we will offer some special albums, which you may reject by returning the special dated form provided . . . or accept by simply doing nothing.

You'll be eligible for our bonus plan upon completing your enrollment agreement — a plan which enables you to get one record of your choice free (only 25¢ for processing and postage) for every one you buy thereafter. Act now — fill in and mail the application today!

Columbia Record Club
a service of Columbia House Terre Haute, Indiana 47808

COLUMBIA RECORD CLUB, Terre Haute, Indiana 47808

I am enclosing check or money order for $2.86 as payment for the 14 records below. Please accept my membership application. I agree to purchase ten records (at regular Club prices) during the coming two years, and may cancel membership any time thereafter. If I continue, I'll be eligible for your bonus plan.

Send these 14 records—I've enclosed check or money order for $2.86

All records will be described in advance in the Magazine, sent every four weeks. If I do not want any record, I'll return the selection card by the date specified . . . or use the card to order any record I want. If I want only the regular selection for my musical interest, I need do nothing—it will be sent automatically. From time to time, I'll be offered special albums which I may accept or reject by using the dated form provided.

MY MAIN MUSICAL INTEREST IS (check one only):

☐ Easy Listening ☐ Young Sounds ☐ Jazz
☐ Country ☐ Broadway & Hollywood ☐ Classical

☐ Mr.
☐ Miss
☐ Mrs. (Please print) First Name Initial Last Name

Address .....

City .....

State ..... Zip .....

Do you have a telephone? (check one) ☐ YES ☐ NO

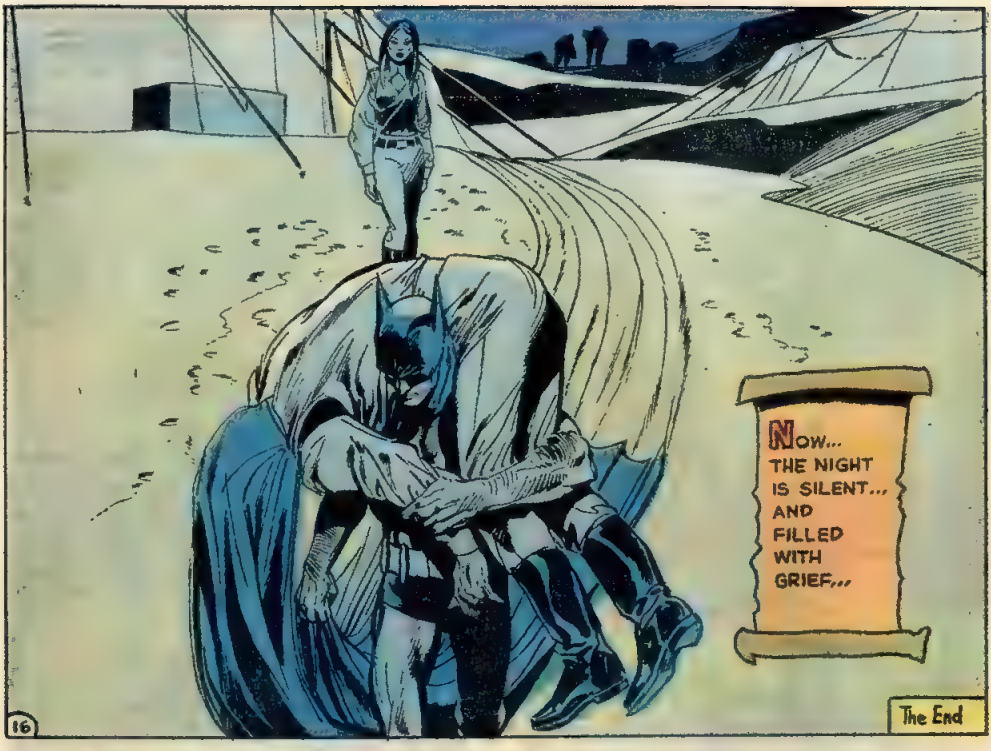
APO/FPO addressees: write for special offer

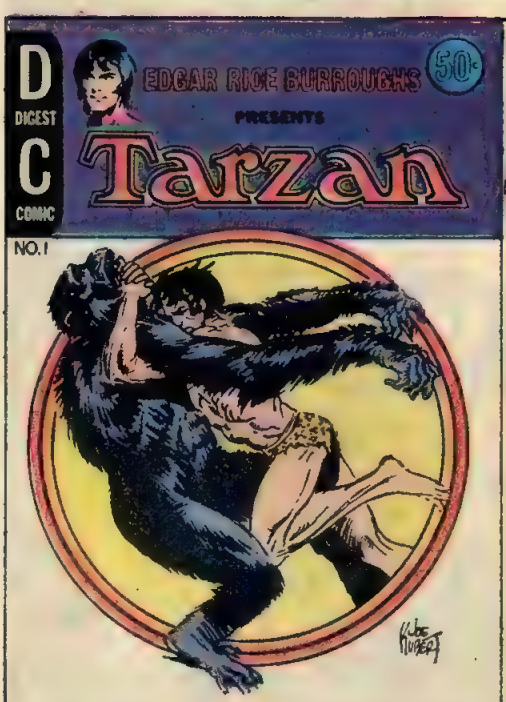
(BS-Z) DOP

457/572

...A FINAL KISS!
AN ACRID, BITTER TASTE...A BITTERNESS THE DYING BATMAN IS BARELY AWARE OF AS IT TOUCHES PARCHED LIPS...
...UNTIL--MIRACULOUSLY--HE FEELS STRENGTH FLOODING HIS TORTURED LIMBS, HIS PULSEBEAT QUICKENS!...
TREMBLING, HE STANDS...
...DRIVEN BY AN INSTINCT HE CANNOT NAME--AN INSTINCT BEYOND UNDERSTANDING--HE STRIDES TOWARD A CERTAIN DESTINATION...
...TO WHERE RĀ'S AL GHŪL STANDS ALONE, LOST IN SOLITARY THOUGHT!
RĀ'S!
BY THE GODS! YOU PURSUE ME PAST YOUR DYING...!
ARE YOU MAN--OR FIEND FROM HELL?

HE DIDN'T MOVE... DIDN'T EVEN TRY TO RESIST!
PERHAPS, BELOVED, HE RECOGNIZED HIS... MASTER!
WILL YOU TAKE HIM TO THE AUTHORITIES?
I MUST! I AM SORRY!
AND I? AM I ALSO TO BE IMPRISONED?





THE ORIGINAL APE-MAN SHOUTS A CHALLENGE... WHICH IS ANSWERED BY DANGER! EXCITEMENT! ADVENTURE! IN THIS BIG BOOK OF Tarzan

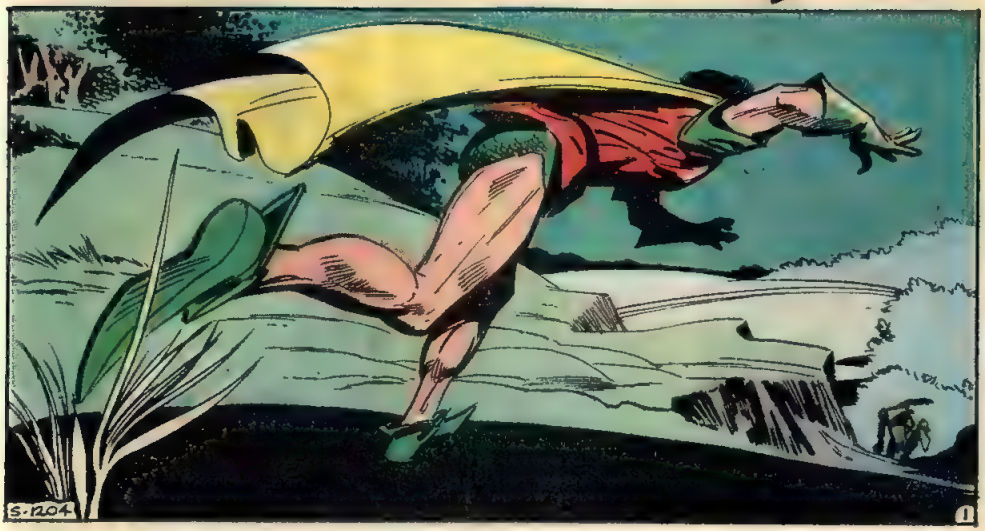
160 PAGES 50¢

THE CAMPUS COFFEE HOUSE AT HUDSON UNIVERSITY IN THE TOWN OF NEW CARTHAGE...WHERE IT IS NO ORDINARY FRESHMAN WHO NOTICES A FURTIVE FIGURE SNEAKING OUT THROUGH THE REAR EXIT...

NO ORDINARY BOY AT ALL--THIS DICK GRAYSON--WHO RUNS OUTSIDE TO GRAB A COSTUME CONCEALED IN HIS MICROBUS--OF DISTINCTIVE RED AND YELLOW...

Robin in The "Teen-Age Trap!"

STORY: ELLIOT MAGGIN
ART: IRV NOVICK & DICK GIORDANO



A RUSTLE OF GRASS—A BLUR OF COLORS IN THE NIGHT--AND...
ALL RIGHT, PAL--
GAME'S OVER!
LET'S HAVE THE BREAD!
GUHH--!
HUH--? YOU'RE JUST A KID!
WHY'D YOU SWIPE THAT MONEY FROM THE COFFEE HOUSE?
NONE OF YOUR BUSINESS... YOU COSTUMED FREAK!
"FREAK" EH?
THE WAY HE SAYS IT...HIS HEART ISN'T WHERE HIS MOUTH IS!
OKAY, YOU GOT THE BREAD--LET GO MY ARM!
DO YOU KNOW THE PROFITS FROM THAT PLACE GO TOWARD STUDENT SCHOLARSHIPS?
SURE I KNOW--
THAT'S WHY I TOOK IT!
IT GOES TO KIDS FROM PLACES LIKE GOTHAM CITY...METROPOLIS...
...KIDS WHO COULD PROBABLY AFFORD IT ANYWAY!
ALL THOSE HUDSON CREEPS ARE LOADED!
WHAT CHANCE IS THERE FOR A LOCAL KID LIKE ME TO MAKE IT TO HUDSON...FOR FREE? --ZILCH!
WHAT KIND OF A REASON IS THAT TO STEAL--?
REASON ENOUGH FOR ME!
NOW WHADD'YA GONNA DO... TURN ME IN?
NOPE--I'M TAKING YOU HOME!
HOP ON MY BIKE!
IF "BATS" KNEW HOW I WAS DEALING WITH THIS KID, HE'D HAVE MY HEAD...
...BUT I HAVE MY REASONS!
CONTINUED ON 2 PAGE FOLLOWING.
2

SSP
SUPER SONIC POWER

Kenner's SMASH-UP DERBY

SONIC SOUND

RRRR-RRR

EEE-EEE-EEE

CRASH!

SOUNDS LIKE REAL RACERS!

HEY! YOU GUYS ARE SMASHING UP YOUR SSP RACERS!

YOU KNOW IT! WE'VE GOT THE SSP SMASH-UP DERBY!

"WITH RACERS THAT WORK JUST LIKE ALL SSP CARS...

PULL

WHIR-RRR-RR

GYRO-POWERED! NO BATTERIES! NO TRACK! WITH SONIC SOUND... THE HOWL OF POWER!

BUT WHAT A DIFFERENCE!

DOORS, HOOD, WHEELS, TRUNK LID FLY OFF ON IMPACT!

"THE BIGGER THE SMASH-UP... THE MORE PIECES FLY OFF!"

KABAM

"AFTER ANY COLLISION- JUST SNAP TOGETHER AND YOU'RE READY AGAIN!"

SNAP!

"WE USE THE JUMP RAMP/BARRIER THAT COMES WITH THE SET TO DO ALL KINDS OF SMASH-UP DERBY STUNTS!"

LEAPS

HILLTOP SMASHES

MID-AIR SCRUNCHERS

RAMP CRASHES

BOY, IT'S GOT ALL THE THRILLS OF A REAL DEMOLITION DERBY!

CRASH!

SMASH-UP DERBY INCLUDES:
2 SPECIAL FLY APART SSP RACERS EACH ABOUT 7" LONG WITH SCRUNCHED-UP DETAILING. HAVE HIDDEN GYRO-WHEEL WITH POWER SLOTS IN ROOF.
2 JUMP RAMP/BARRIER SIMULATED BRICK WALL WITH RAMP TO LEAP UP TO 4 FEET. 2 POWER HANDLE T STICKS.

NOW! SMASH-UP CARS AVAILABLE INDIVIDUALLY!
4 MODELS... TOUGH TOM (ILLUSTRATED), BUGGEM, BOSS HENRY, BLAST-EM!
SMASH 'EM, PUT 'EM BACK AGAIN!

SOON, CLEAR ACROSS TOWN...
...AND DON'T EVER LET ME CATCH YOU STEALING AGAIN--DIG?
YEAH...YEAH--THAT'S COOL!
I'LL BE SENDING A FRIEND OF MINE TO RAP WITH YOU TOMORROW--
--A HUDSON STUDENT NAMED DICK GRAYSON!
AN H.U. CREEP--CHECKING UP ON ME?
NO WAY!--JUST LEMME ALONE!
ALL THE SAME--YOU'D BETTER LEND HIM AN EAR, PAL...
SCRE-E-E!
"PAL", NOTHIN'! NAME'S TOMMY... TOMMY DUFFY!
HEY--BIRD-BOY! WHAT YOU DOIN' ON OUR TURF--?
LET'S SHOW HOW WE HANDLE GUYS WHAT DON'T BELONG HERE!
KRACK!
A BUNCH OF HOODLUMS--JUNIOR GRADE!
WHAT A CRUDDY PLACE THIS HOUSING PROJECT MUST BE TO GROW UP IN!
3

WHAT WOULD *YOU* DO IF YOU WERE THIS *TEEN WONDER*...BROUGHT UP IN THE SPLENDOR OF *WAYNE MANOR*?...

...AND SUDDENLY FOUND YOURSELF IN THIS RUNDOWN TRAP, FACING THE FRUSTRATION THAT IS *POVERTY*...?

FRUSTRATION WHOSE ONLY EXPRESSION IS IN *VIOLENCE*...

YOU WOULD FIGHT BACK, OF COURSE...

...DO WHAT IS "*RIGHT*"...

'SCUSE ME, SIR...

...BUT THIS SEAT IS RESERVED!

AND THEN YOU'D *BREAK OUT* OF THIS *TEEN-AGE TRAP*!...

PRESENTLY, AFTER STEALTHILY RETURNING THE MONEY TO THE NOW-CLOSED COFFEE HOUSE...

I KNOW I'M NOT PLAYING THE GAME ACCORDING TO THE *BOOK*--

...LETTING TOMMY GO... AND COVERING UP HIS "PETTY" LARCENY--

CONTINUED ON 2ND PAGE FOLLOWING!

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2 CATAPULTS — actually hurls ammunition to break Castle walls.
10 BOULDERS for catapults
2 GOAT HEAD RAMS — actually used to force the Castle gates
2 DOUBLE DOOR CASTLE GATES — that actually open and close
2 DRAW BRIDGES — that actually raise and lower
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1 ARROW SPINNER
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4 BATTLESHIPS • 16 TANKS WITH MOVABLE GUN TURRETS
24 DELTA WINGED DOG FIGHTING JET BOMBERS
16 ARROGANT GERMAN UNITS • 16 TOUGH BRITISH UNITS
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OR WE'LL BE WIPED OUT
BY JETS. THE ENEMY
PENETRATED OUR
MISSILE RING WITH
LAND AND SEA RAIDS
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WITH COMBINED FORCES
AND FIGHTER-BOMBERS
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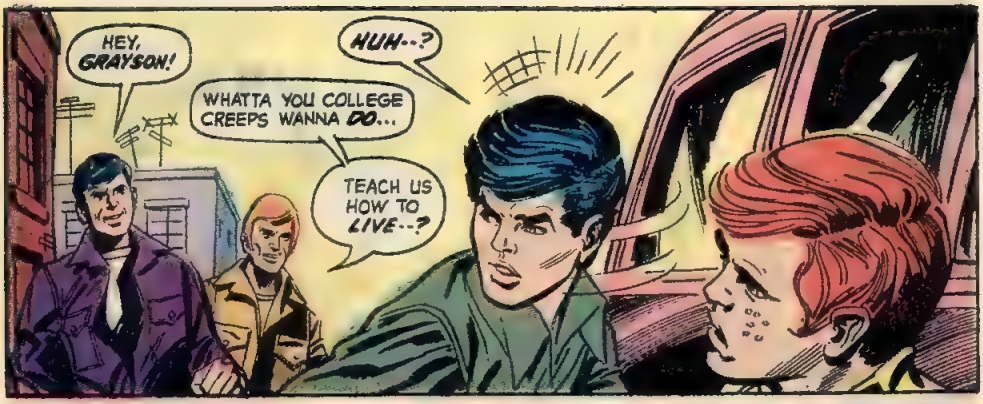
BUT IF THERE'S ANYTHING COLLEGE TAUGHT ME...
...IT'S THAT IF YOU WANT TO SOLVE A PROBLEM, YOU TACKLE THE CAUSE...NOT THE SYMPTOM!
AS ROBIN CLIMBS THE DRAIN-PIPE TO HIS ROOM AT MRS. HIGGINS' BOARDING HOUSE...
BECAUSE TOMMY LIVES IN A LOW-INCOME HOUSING PROJECT... HE THINKS HE'S TRAPPED THERE--
--THAT NO ONE CARES ABOUT HIM...
WHAT HE NEEDS IS SOMEONE WHO DOES CARE ABOUT HIM-- AND HIS FUTURE!
--ONE OF THOSE "RICH HUDSON CREEPS"... LIKE DICK GRAYSON!
;YAWN! WE TEEN WONDERS SURE HAVE OUR HANGURS...
TOMORROW WE START SOLVING SOME OF THEM!
THE NEXT AFTERNOON...
♫ AS FLAMES SOARED UP INTO THE NIGHT... TO LIGHT THE-- ♫
HEY, KID-- YOU DO ALL RIGHT ON THE GUITAR!
YOU. THE HUDSON CREEP ROBIN SENT TO "TALK" TO ME--?
I AM...
...IF YOU'RE TOMMY DUFFY!

YEAH, THAT'S ME...
ONLY I AIN'T LISTENIN' TO NO--
BUT I'M HERE TO LISTEN TO YOU!
ROBIN TOLD ME TO FIND OUT WHAT'S EATING YOU--
--AND THAT'S WHAT I'M GONNA DO!
IT IS HOSTILITY THAT DICK SEES IN A PAIR OF EYES THAT SHOULD BE TOO YOUNG TO KNOW WHAT THAT FEELING MEANS...
HOSTILITY..AND FEAR... MUCH LIKE THAT WHICH ANOTHER KID FELT YEARS BEFORE...
...WHEN ANOTHER, TALL, OMINOUS FIGURE-- THE BATMAN-- DARED A YOUNG DICK GRAYSON TO BE STRONG IN A HOSTILE WORLD...
AND THE RESULT OF THAT DARE IS NOW ROBIN--THE TEEN WONDER...
...WHO DOES NOT GIVE UP EASILY...
BET YOU DON'T KNOW HOW TO "FINGER-PICK" THAT GUITAR...
YOU KNOW HOW TO FINGER PICK--?
--SHOW ME!
AND OVER THE FOLLOWING WEEKS...
YOU GOT A B-PLUS ON THAT MATH TEST, TOMMY?--
--GREAT!
YEAH-- IT'S ALL RIGHT... I GUESS...
DID YOU BRING YOUR GUITAR?--
SURE--
GOT IT IN THE BUS!
6

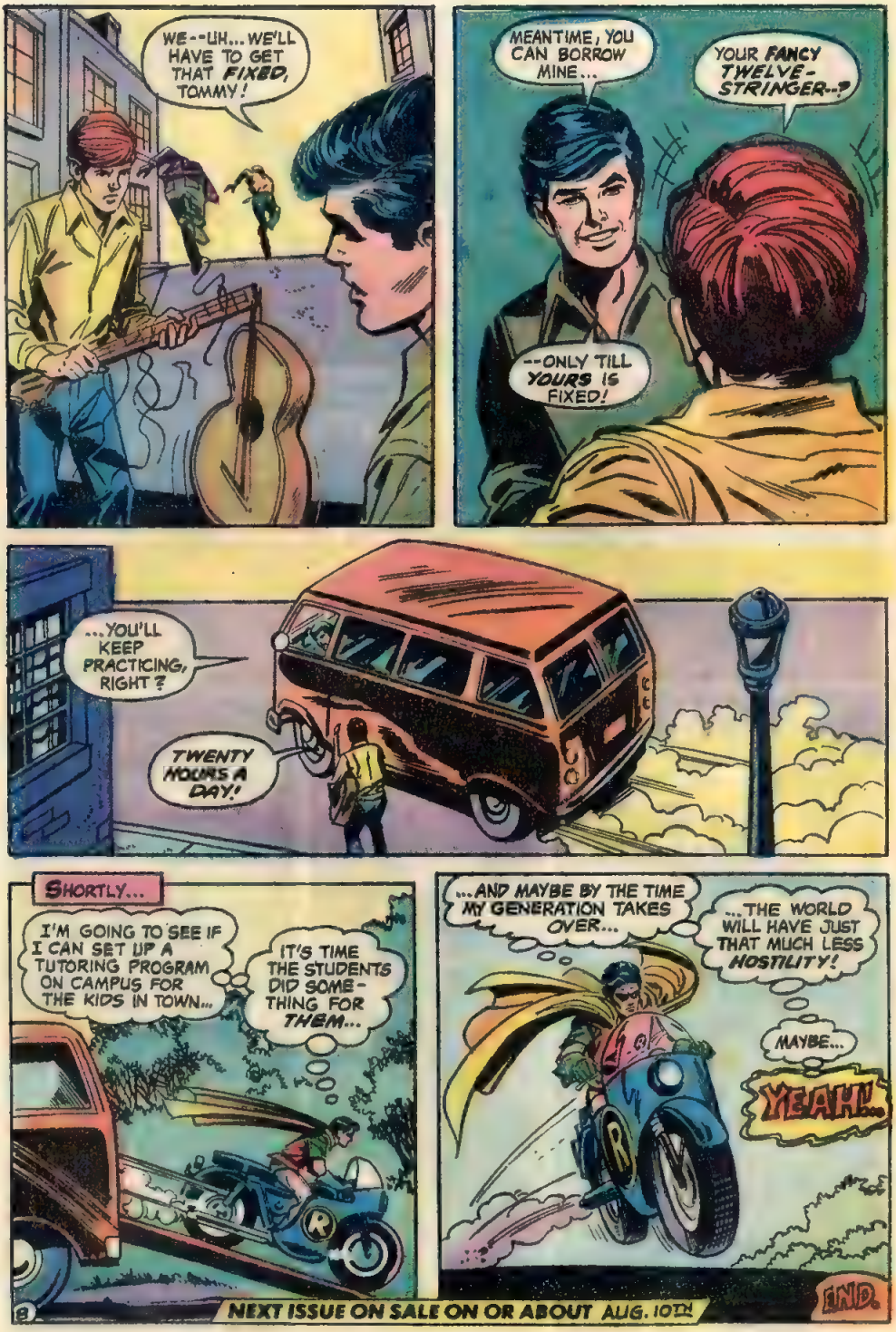

HEY, GRAYSON!
WHATTA YOU COLLEGE CREEPS WANNA DO...
HUH--?
TEACH US HOW TO LIVE--?

HEY-- WAIT!
WHAT HAVE YOU GUYS GOT AGAINST ME?
YOU'RE A COLLEGE SNOB--
--SO YOU DON'T BELONG HERE--!

FUNNY-- I ALWAYS THOUGHT THE STREETS WERE FOR EVERYONE--
I'D BETTER NOT LOOK TOO GOOD AT THIS--

I'LL SHOW-- THOSE MEAT-HEADS--!

TWANG!


WE--UH... WE'LL HAVE TO GET THAT FIXED, TOMMY!
MEANTIME, YOU CAN BORROW MINE...
YOUR FANCY TWELVE-STRINGER--?
--ONLY 'TILL YOURS IS FIXED!
...YOU'LL KEEP PRACTICING, RIGHT?
TWENTY HOURS A DAY!
SHORTLY...
I'M GOING TO SEE IF I CAN SET UP A TUTORING PROGRAM ON CAMPUS FOR THE KIDS IN TOWN...
IT'S TIME THE STUDENTS DID SOMETHING FOR THEM...
...AND MAYBE BY THE TIME MY GENERATION TAKES OVER...
...THE WORLD WILL HAVE JUST THAT MUCH LESS HOSTILITY!
MAYBE...
YEAH!...
END.
8
NEXT ISSUE ON SALE ON OR ABOUT AUG. 10TH

LETTERS TO THE BATMAN S-1292

Dear Editor:

Stupendous! Fantastic! My usually viperous typewriter is now spelling out unparalleled praise for cover artist Neal Adams for what will undoubtedly go down in fan memories as the greatest comix cover of the ages—*Batman* #241; May, 1972!

Neal Adams, of course, does many excellent covers every month—and there are many other extremely talented cover artists—but I have never seen a cover as truly striking as this masterpiece. To a truefan such as myself, the grim-visaged *Batman* flying at the reader is real graphic poetry. And the new logo—I defintely approve of it; I demand you keep it; there can be no other!

This cover can be applied to *any Batman* issue; it has a universal appeal and is not dated or limited by trying to actually depict a scene from the inside story. This is not done nearly as often as it should be.

The cover story, "At Dawn Dies Mary MacGuffin," was excellent; a fine mystery. *Batman* is no super-hero, he's first and foremost a *detective*, and such stories are exactly right for the character. Ignore the fact that *Batman* wears a spooky get-up; after all, everyone can have a little eccentricity. If *I* can read comix, *Bruce Wayne* can go around assuming criminals are a cowardly, superstitious lot and attempt to strike terror into their hearts. But he is a detective first and foremost, and never mind his garb.

—CHARLES T. SMITH, Brainerd, Minn.

(Cover! Cover! COVER!—Clap! Clap! CLAP! Such was the thunderous applause directed at #241's cover . . . of which we give you more! More! *MORE! —JS)*

Dear Editor:

I was most favorably, happily impressed with *Batman* #241. I don't want to run down the whole issue, as enough readers will do that.

Aside from liking the contents so much, I was overwhelmed three times by the cover—first by the drawing, second by the caption, third by the new logo. The drawing is certainly one of Neal Adams' finest, and that in a long history of fine covers. It seems that Adams gets a little more *oomph* when dealing with *The Batman;* he continues to surpass himself. When Neal is not tied down to having to depict a scene from the inside story and has a free reign to show the character in an archetypical scene, as on this cover with *The Batman* seemingly flying through the night stalking an unfortunate evildoer, the cover is invariably compelling. As I recall, the early issues of *Batman* did just this—showing him attacking crooks from a bridge or mysteriously looming behind a haunted house. These covers, more than the kind that depict a scene from a story inside, really capture the spirit of the character.

—EDWARD BRODERICK, Dekalb, Ill.

(Speaking of "inside stories"—we chanced upon a Batman *sketch Neal Adams was dashing off for a friend. It knocked us out, but not before we commissioned Neal to blow it up as a cover (which he pencilled and Berni Wrightson inked). Coincidentally, upon the very day the cover was completed, Denny O'Neil finished "At Dawn Dies Mary MacGuffin", which struck us as ideally capturing the mood of the cover (with the help of a blurb)! —JS)*

Dear Editor:

I could begin this letter by saying that "At Dawn Dies Mary MacGuffin" was one of Denny O'Neil's best stories. I could explain that this tale's greatness arose from the perfect handling of *The Batman's* three main facets: his emotional make-up, his intellect, and his physical prowess. I could even go so far as to praise Irv Novick and Dick Giordano for their most excellent visual renderings.

I could say all these things. After all, they happen to be true! However, I won't say them, because what I really want to discuss is your new cover logo. This is basically the same one that appeared on the cover of *Batman's* very first issue with a few alterations—most notably the more dramatic lines given to the bat-wings. One thing I notice about this logo is its simplicity. It looks as though any clod could draw it. Simple? Yes!—But also very, very effective . . . eerie and awe-inspiring like Gotham's Guardian himself. Surely no one but the most jaded individual can peer at this grim symbol without feeling the overpowering determination of those sinister eyes. I'm looking at it now . . . it's almost as if *The Batman* is here . . . staring at me . . . asking if my soul is free from the ravages of crime while I cringe in fear!

—PAUL EMRATH, Milwaukee, Wis.

That cover—I *felt* it! It was not *Bruce Wayne* under that mask, it was *I!* A cold, stonish breeze lashed through my cape with a slight saltiness from Gotham harbor. Pale, liquid moonlight oozed over the city, weaving a gossamer tapestry of light and deep shadow across Gotham. I was alone, one, significant, as eight million corpses pursued tranquil slumber. (Chee, are all writers that neurotic?)

—JOHN D. WARNER, Santa, Cruz, Ca.

The cover stunned me . . . it was easily the best *Batman* cover I have *ever* seen. It was the entire *Batman* series symbolized and communicated in one picture. It was the perfect comix cover.

—FRANK C. VERZYL, Lindenhurst, N.J.

Cover: very good, with no word balloons. It set the mood of the issue well, with a beautiful picture of a grim, determined *Batman* in pursuit of some crime or injustice to demolish.

—MICHAEL W. FRAZIER, Lexington, Ky.

He is a wraith. A foreboding figure of the shadows and darkness. He is the avenger of countless wrongs. He is *The Batman.* Neal Adams portrayed him with beauty on the cover. This is greatness!

—MATT GRAHAM, Granada Hills, Ca.

Another logo change? Well, one looks as good as another, so when you find one you like I hope you'll stick to it. Anyway, that cover figure of *The Batman* was sensational!

—GERARD TRIANO, Elmont, N.Y.

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HEY! QUIT KICKING THAT SAND IN OUR FACES!
THAT MAN IS THE WORST NUISANCE ON THE BEACH
LISTEN HERE, I'D SMASH YOUR FACE··· ONLY YOU'RE SO SKINNY YOU MIGHT DRY UP AND BLOW AWAY.
THE BIG BULLY! I'LL GET EVEN SOME DAY
OH DON'T LET IT BOTHER YOU, LITTLE BOY!
DARN IT! I'M SICK AND TIRED OF BEING A SCARECROW! CHARLES ATLAS SAYS HE CAN GIVE ME A REAL BODY. ALL RIGHT! I'LL GAMBLE A STAMP AND GET HIS FREE BOOK!
BOY! IT DIDN'T TAKE ATLAS LONG TO DO THIS FOR ME! WHAT MUSCLES! THAT BULLY WON'T SHOVE ME AROUND AGAIN!
LATER
WHAT! YOU HERE AGAIN? HERE'S SOMETHING I OWE YOU!
OH, MAC! YOU ARE A REAL MAN AFTER ALL!
HERO OF THE BEACH
GOSH! WHAT A BUILD
HE'S ALREADY FAMOUS FOR IT!

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The Secret of How I Got My Build

Then I discovered a wonderful way to develop my body fast. It worked wonders for me — changed me from the scrawny "runt" I was at 17, into "The World's Most Perfectly Developed Man." And I can build up YOUR body the very same natural way — without weights, springs or pulleys. Only 15 minutes a day of pleasant practice — in the privacy of your room.

My "Dynamic-Tension" method has already helped thousands of other fellows become real he-men in double-quick time. Let it help YOU. Not next month or next year — but Right NOW!

"Dynamic-Tension" Builds Muscles FAST!

If you're like I was, you want a powerful, muscular, well-proportioned build you can be proud of any time, anywhere. You want the "Greek-God" type of physique that women rave about at the beach — the kind that makes other fellows green with envy.

Mail Coupon Now for My 32-Page Illustrated Book

Mailing the coupon can be the turning point in your life. I'll send you a copy of my 32-page illustrated book, "How Dynamic-Tension Makes You a NEW MAN." Tells how and why my method works; shows many pictures proving what it has done for others. Don't delay. Mail coupon NOW. CHARLES ATLAS, Dept. 819 115 E. 23rd St., New York, N.Y. 10010.

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115 East 23rd St., New York, N. Y. 10010

Dear Charles Atlas: Here's the kind of Body I Want:

(Check as many as you like)

- ☐ Broader Chest and Shoulders
- ☐ Ironhard Stomach Muscles
- ☐ Tireless Legs
- ☐ Slimmer Waist and Legs
- ☐ More Energy and Stamina
- ☐ More Magnetic Personality
- ☐ More Weight—Solid—in the Right Places

I enclose 10c. Please send me a copy of your famous book showing how "Dynamic-Tension" can make me a new man. 32 Pages, crammed with photographs, answers to vital health questions, and valuable advice. This does not obligate me in any way.

Print Name.....Age.....

Address.....

City & State.....Zip Code.....

In England: Charles Atlas, 21 Poland St., London, W.1

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Extreme Shovel™
Cab pivots, shovel scoops, arms move. Tears through the traps in record time.

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Blade raises, lowers. World's only competition bulldozer.

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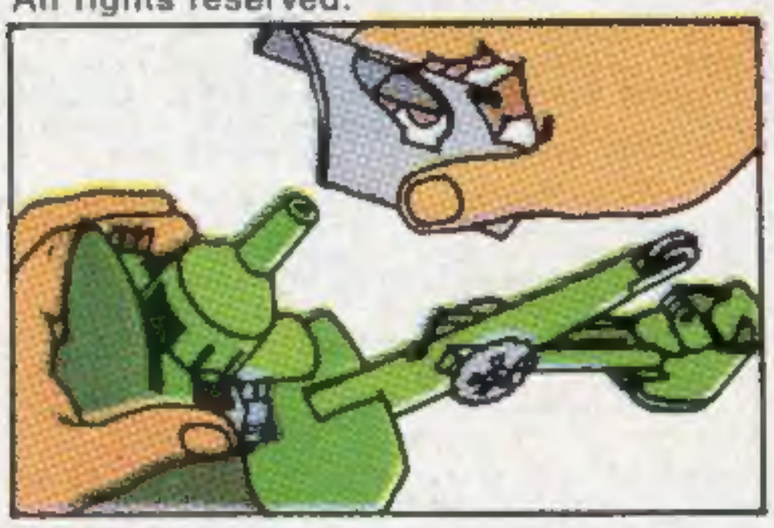

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